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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of :
Manabu OUMI et al. :
Serial No. 09/462,437 : Group Art Unit - 2653
Filed: May 16, 2000 : Examiner - Kimlien T. Le
For: NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL HEAD : Docket No. S004-3848(PCT)

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MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT
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SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

S I R:

In further response to the final Office Action dated February 3, 2003, applicants further amend their application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly add the following new claims 33-40:

33. A near-field optical head according to claim 1; further comprising a through-hole formed in the slider and terminating in the microscopic aperture.
34. A near-field optical head according to claim 33; further comprising a light shielding layer covering the through-hole except for the microscopic aperture.

MAILING CERTIFICATE ON
LAST PAGE